and solar energy during the Eighth Five Year Plan, Year-wise;

(b) the details of achievements made under the solar energy development programme till March, 1997;

(c) the details of the programme evolved to utilise solar energy for rural electrification/rural telephone exchange and other fields;

(d) the details of the action plan for the development of solar energy in these areas; and

(e) the target fixed in this regard during Ninth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) Solar Energy can be harnessed through (i) generation of electricity through solar photovoltaic (SPV) systems; and (ii) heating/cooling through solar thermal (ST) systems. During the Eighth Five Year Plan period about 33 million kilowatt hours of electricity was generated or saved by deployment of photovoltaic systems for lighting, water pumping and other applications. In addition, solar thermal systems generated about 917 million kilowatt hours of thermal energy during the same period. The year-wise details of energy generated through solar technologies are given in statement-I.

There was no generation of energy from tidal sources during the Eight Plan period.

(b) The details of various solar energy systems deployed under the programmes of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources as on 31 March, 1997 are given in Statement-II attached.

(c) to (e) Solar PV systems are in use for a variety of rural and industrial applications such as home lighting, street lighting, water pumping, village power plants, rural public telephones and battery charging, railway signalling, etc.

Expanded programmes in these areas are envisaged during the Ninth Plan. Deployment of 1 million solar lanterns, 0.5 million home lighting systems, 10,000 water pumping systems and 5 MW of Power Plants and other systems have been proposed by the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. In addition, SPV systems are likely to be required for about 2 lakh village public telephones to be installed by the Department of Telecommunications. However, the exact physical targets and financial outlays for the Ninth Plan have not yet been finalised by the Government.

**Statement-I**

*Year-wise Energy Generated or Saved by Solar Energy Systems during the Eighth Plan Period*

| S. No. | Year | Solar Photovoltaic Systems | Solar Thermal Systems |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | (in million Kilowatt hours) | |
| 1. | 1992-93 | 4.13 | 144 |
| 2. | 1993-94 | 4.58 | 160 |
| 3. | 1994-95 | 5.61 | 187 |
| 4. | 1995-96 | 7.84 | 196 |
| 5. | 1996-97 | 10.54 | 230 |

**Statement-II**

*Solar Energy Systems deployed under the Programmes of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, as on 31.3.97*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Solar Lanterns (Nos.) | 1,31,190 |
| 2. | Home Lighting Systems (Nos.) | 52,330 |
| 3. | Street Lighting Systems (Nos.) | 31,527 |
| 4. | SPV Power Plants (Nos./KWp) | 184/999 |
| 5. | SPV Water Pumps (Nos.) | 1,953 |
| 6. | Solar Water Heating Systems (Collector area in sq.m.) | 3,71,021 |
| 7. | Solar Stills (Nos.) | 11,072 |
| 8. | Solar Timber Kilns (Nos.) | 71 |
| 9. | Solar Air Heating Systems (Nos./sq.m.) | 61/3228 |
| 10. | Solar Cookers (Nos.) | 4,20,000 |

**Foreign Investment in Rajasthan**

6497. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Asian Breweries Limited, Singapore propose to make heavy investment in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Rajasthan Breweries Limited has proposed any agreement worth Rs. 150 crores with the above company through the Union Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal

received for joint venture between Asian Breweries Limited, Singapore and Rajasthan Breweries Limited.

*[English]*

**US Trade Law 301**

6498. SHRI CHITTA BASU :
SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the US Administration has placed India on its priority watch list under US trade law 301 for India's failure to provide protection to American intellectual property rights particularly its patents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the issue with World Trade Organisation;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) and (b) During the 1997 annual review by the US Government under their Special 301 provisions, India has been retained on the 'priority watch list'. Special 301 provisions deal with identification of countries by US Government which in their perception deny adequate and effective protection of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) and fair and equitable market access to US persons who rely on IPRs.

(c) to (e) The USA has taken the matter in a dispute to the World Trading Organisation (WTO) alleging non-compliance by India of certain provisions of the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights. India is contesting the allegations.

**PSUs Liquidation Proceedings**

6499. SHRI PRAMOTHES MUKHERJEE :
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Public Sector Undertakings have been facing liquidation proceedings before the court of law;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are determined to take initiative to revive these PSUs under the commitment made in the Common Minimum Programme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Investment by Microsoft Corporation**

6500. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the extent to which the Microsoft Corporation has decided to invest in India; and

(b) the project on which they have been agreed to invest ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) M/s. Microsoft Corpn. Pvt. Ltd., has been granted foreign collaboration approval on 15.1.1996 to set up project for manufacture of computer software, training and development, product support services and channel development and microsoft consulting services with foreign equity participation of 100% by Microsoft Corpn., U.S.A. amounting to Rs. 3.53 Crores (approx).

**Wages of Coal Workers**

6501. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that unrest is growing among colliery workers due to non-implementation of bi-partite wage agreements in coal industry; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation and to implement the said agreements ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) There is no unrest or agitation in CIL or its subsidary over the issue of implementation of bi-partite wage agreements in the coal industry;

(b) Not applicable in view of reply at 'a' above.

*[Translation]*

**Allotment of Index Number to Voters**

6502. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :